

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method for restoring traffic in a network. The
network includes plural distinct nodes interconnected by
plural distinct spans, each span having working links and
spare links. Each node has a digital cross-connect switch
for making and breaking connections between adjacent spans
forming span pairs at a node. Cross-connections between
10 spare links in adjacent spans are made such that sets of
successive nodes through which the adjacent spans form span
paths form closed paths. A method of finding and
construction closed paths is described in which statelets
are broadcast through the network. In a preferred method of
15 implementation of the method, the statelet broadcast occurs
not in response to a network failure, but across the entire
network before any particular span failure and may be
carried out during normal network operations as a continual
re-configuration of the network.